

Call to Prayer: Sunday 22nd August 2021
Prayer @ 7pm

To whom do we turn to find the answers to the many difficult questions that now confront us? The questions of the day are many and there are seldom easy answers to be found. In part, the challenge we face is how to live with the difficult questions whilst continuing to seek honest answers.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus is recorded as having been asked difficult questions to which he then gave honest answers. The consequence of these answers is that some of those who had previously followed him began to turn back. In turn, Jesus asks his twelve closest disciples if they also wish 'to go away'. With characteristic boldness, Peter answers: "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life?" (John 6: 68) In following Jesus, we soon discover that many of the difficult questions still remain. In continuing to follow Jesus, we recognise by faith that he is the One through whom God reconciles the difficult questions and continues to offer to us the gift of life. We pray:

Living God,
Who reconciles all things through Christ,
We come to you
With the questions of the day.
We come that we might find One who will listen
And who will embrace our concerns.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Living God,
Who reconciles all things through Christ,
We come to you
To seek answers to the questions of life
And we come in the company of others.
Grant that we may hear you speak amidst the clamour of the day.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Living God,
Who reconciles all things through Christ,
We come to you
With the hard questions
And those that defy our attempts to resolve.
Grant us grace to live with the hard questions at this time.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Living God,
Who reconciles all things through Christ,
We come to you
For you have the words of eternal life.
Grant us grace to believe
And to know that you are the Holy One of God.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Signed by:

Lord Wallace, Moderator of the General Assembly, Church of Scotland

Most Rev. Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, Roman Catholic Church

Most Rev. Mark Strange, Primus, on behalf of the College of Bishops, Scottish Episcopal Church

Rev. Dr David Miller, Moderator, United Free Church of Scotland

Rev. Neil MacMillan, Moderator, Free Church of Scotland

Rev. Paul Whittle, Moderator, United Reformed Church (Scotland)

Rev. Martin Hodson, General Director, Baptist Union of Scotland

Rev. Mark Slaney, District Chair, Methodist Church (Scotland)

Rev. Thomas R. Wilson, Chair, Congregational Federation in Scotland

Lt. Col. Carol Bailey, Secretary for Scotland, Salvation Army

Adwoa Bittle, Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Rev. Ruth Turner, District Superintendent, British Isles North District, Church of the Nazarene

Pastor Chris Gbenle, Provincial Pastor, Province of Scotland, Redeemed Christian Church of God

Bishop Francis Alao, Church of God (Scotland)/Minority Ethnic Churches Together in Scotland (MECTIS)

Rev Fred Drummond, Director, Evangelical Alliance (Scotland)